

Serial No. 09/736,755
Amdt. dated November 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 3, 2004

Attorney Docket No. PF02006NA

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 through 16, 18 and 19 remain in this application. Claim 17 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 12 and 18 have been amended.

Claims 1, 2, 7 through 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,256,334 to Adachi ("Adachi patent"). Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Adachi patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,570,352 to Poyhonen ("Poyhonen patent"). Claims 3, 4, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Adachi patent, in view of U.S. Application No. 2001/0002912 to Tony, et al. ("Tony, et al. publication"). Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Adachi patent in view of the Tony, et al. publication and the Poyhonen patent.

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 17 through 19 are directed to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 12 have been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 17, and dependent claim 18 has been amended to depend from amended claim 12. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections of claims 1 through 16 and allowance of claims 18 and 19 are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION


No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Also, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any additional fees arising as a result of this response, including any fees for Extensions of Time, or any other communication from or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

It is submitted that the claims clearly define the invention, are supported by the specification and drawings, and are in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns that may expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
Souissi, Slim, et al.

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11/03/04
Date